

U.S.S.N.: 10/605,643

2

WLI 1096 PUS

Amendment To The Claims:

Claims 1 (Currently Amended): A handle for a lacrosse stick and mounting a lacrosse head thereon, comprising:

a hollow tube for attachment to the lacrosse head, said hollow tube having an outer surface and an inner surface; and

a reinforcing insert coupled to said inner surface substantially around a circumference of said inner surface at a given location for strengthening said hollow tube;

wherein said reinforcing insert comprises a layer coupled to said inner surface of said hollow tube for defining a generally uniform inner cavity along the length of said reinforcing insert and minimizing the weight of the handle;

wherein said hollow tube is comprised of a metal selected from the group consisting of aluminum, titanium, and a plurality of strong lightweight metals;

wherein said hollow tube has a non-circular cross-sectional shape;[[.]]

wherein two of said reinforcing inserts respectively are coupled to a top end portion and a bottom end portion of said hollow tube with an intermediate portion of said hollow tube not being supported by said reinforcing inserts.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The handle of claim 1 wherein said reinforcing insert is coupled to said inner surface of said hollow tube substantially around an inner circumference of said hollow tube.

Claims 4-6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The handle of claim 1 wherein said reinforcing insert is comprised of a fiberglass material.

U.S.S.N.: 10/605,643

3

WLI 1096 PUS

Claims 8-22 (Cancelled Without Prejudice)

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The handle of claim 1 wherein [[a]] said top end portion of said hollow tube has said reinforcing insert therein with said reinforcing insert having a substantial thickness.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The handle of claim 1 wherein [[a]] said bottom end portion of said hollow tube has said reinforcing insert therein with said reinforcing insert having a substantial thickness.

Claim 25 (Cancelled Without Prejudice)

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A handle for a lacrosse stick, comprising:

a hollow metal tube having a first end for engagement with a lacrosse head and a second end opposing said first end;

said hollow metal tube having an inner surface and an outer surface, an insert disposed within said hollow metal tube and in engagement with said inner surface around substantially an entire circumference along at least a portion of said hollow metal tube;

~~wherein said insert is comprised of a non metal material and is lightweight;~~

whereby said insert provides increased strength for said hollow metal tube without substantially increasing the weight;

wherein said insert consists of a layer coupled to said inner surface and defines an inner cavity to further minimize the weight of the handle;

wherein said inner cavity is generally uniform along the length of said reinforcing insert for minimizing the weight of the handle;

wherein said hollow metal tube is selected from the group consisting of aluminum, titanium, and a plurality of strong lightweight metals;

U.S.S.N.: 10/605,643

4

WLI 1096 PUS

wherein said hollow tube has a generally polygon cross-sectional shape;
wherein said insert is constructed of a non-metal foam material.

Claim 27 (Cancelled)

Claim 28 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said insert extends substantially along a length of said inner surface of said hollow metal tube.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said insert is coupled to said inner surface adjacent said first end.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said insert is coupled to said inner surface adjacent said second end.

Claim 31 (Cancelled)

Claim 32 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said layer has a substantially uniform thickness.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 26 wherein said insert is coupled to said inner surface substantially along a length of said hollow metal tube.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented) The handle of claim 33 wherein said insert has a thickness that is larger on one half of the handle than the other half.